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September 28, 2015

TO: All U.S. Ford and Lincoln Dealers

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION / DELIVERY HOLD - Safety 15S26
Certain 2015 Model Year Taurus and MKS and 2016 Model Year Explorer Vehicles
Fuel Tank Attachment Bolt Torque

AFFECTED VEHICLES

Vehicle	Model Year	Assembly Plant	Build Date
Taurus	2015	Chicago	July 24, 2015
MKS			
Explorer	2016		

Affected vehicles are identified in OASIS and FSA VIN Lists.

REASON FOR THIS SAFETY RECALL

In all of the affected vehicles, the fuel tank attachment bolts were not installed to the proper torque specification. Improper torque may result in insufficient clamp load that could lead to fatigue and fracture of the fuel tank straps, which could result in the fuel tank separating from the vehicle. A fuel tank separation may result in a fuel leak. A fuel leak in the presence of an ignition source can lead to a fire.

SERVICE ACTION

Before demonstrating or delivering any of the vehicles involved in this recall, dealers are to loosen the fuel tank attachment bolts one-turn, then torque to specification. This service must be performed on all affected vehicles at no charge to the vehicle owner.

OWNER NOTIFICATION MAILING SCHEDULE

Owner Letters are expected to be mailed the week of October 19, 2015. Dealers should repair any affected vehicles that arrive at their dealerships, whether or not the customer has received a letter.

PLEASE NOTE:

Federal law requires dealers to complete this recall service before a new vehicle is delivered to the buyer or lessee. Violation of this requirement by a dealer could result in a civil penalty of up to \$7,000 per vehicle. Correct all vehicles in your new vehicle inventory before delivery.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment I: Administrative Information
Attachment II: Labor Allowances and Parts Ordering Information
Attachment III: Technical Information

QUESTIONS & ASSISTANCE

For questions and assistance, contact the Special Service Support Center (SSSC) via the SSSC Web Contact Site. The SSSC Web Contact Site can be accessed through the Professional Technician Society (PTS) website using the SSSC link listed at the bottom of the OASIS VIN report screen or listed under the SSSC tab.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Berardi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "M".

Michael A. Berardi

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OASIS ACTIVATION

OASIS will be activated on September 28, 2015.

FSA VIN LISTS ACTIVATION

FSA VIN Lists will be available through <https://web.fsavinlists.dealerconnection.com> on September 28, 2015. Owner names and addresses will be available by October 30, 2015.

NOTE: Your FSA VIN Lists may contain owner names and addresses obtained from motor vehicle registration records. The use of such motor vehicle registration data for any purpose other than in connection with this recall is a violation of law in several states, provinces, and countries.

Accordingly, you must limit the use of this listing to the follow-up necessary to complete this recall.

STOCK VEHICLES

- Correct all affected units in your new vehicle inventory before delivery.
- Use OASIS to identify any affected vehicles in your used vehicle inventory.

SOLD VEHICLES

- Owners of affected vehicles will be directed to dealers for repairs.
- Immediately contact any of your affected customers whose vehicles are not on your VIN list but are identified in OASIS. Give the customer a copy of the Owner Notification Letter (when available) and schedule a service date.
- Correct other affected vehicles identified in OASIS which are brought to your dealership.

TITLE BRANDED / SALVAGED VEHICLES

Affected title branded and salvaged vehicles are eligible for this recall.

ADDITIONAL LABOR TIME AND/OR PARTS

Submit a request to the SSSC Web Contact Site prior to the repair if you have any of the following:

- Damage that you believe was caused by the covered condition.
- A condition that requires additional labor and/or parts to complete the repair.
- Aftermarket equipment or non-Ford modifications to the vehicle which might prevent the repair of the covered condition.

Requests for approval after completion of the repair may not be granted. Ford Motor Company reserves the right to deny coverage for related damage in cases where the vehicle owner has not had this recall performed on a timely basis. Additional related damage parts are subject to random selection for return to the Ford Warranty Parts Analysis Center (WPAC).

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OWNER REFUNDS

Refunds are not approved for this program.

RENTAL VEHICLES

The use of rental vehicles is not approved for this program.

With proper service appointment scheduling, rental vehicles should not be required. However, if you have a unique circumstance which may require a rental vehicle, please contact the SSSC via the SSSC Web Contact Site.

CLAIMS PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

- Enter claims using Direct Warranty Entry (DWE) or One Warranty Solution (OWS).
 - DWE: refer to ACESII manual for claims preparation and submission information.
 - OWS: when entering claims in DMS software, select claim type 31: Field Service Action. The FSA number 15S26 is the sub code.
- Additional labor and/or parts must be claimed as related damage on a repair line that is separate from the repair line on which the FSA is claimed. Additional labor and/or parts require prior approval from the SSSC via the SSSC Web Contact Site.

NOTE: Maintain supporting documentation for all Miscellaneous Expenses according to procedure as identified in the Warranty and Policy Manual.

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LABOR ALLOWANCES

Description	Vehicle Line	Labor Operation	Labor Time
Loosen Then Torque Fuel Tank Attachment Bolts	Taurus and MKS	15S26B	0.5 Hour(s)
	Explorer		0.3 Hour(s)

PARTS REQUIREMENTS / ORDERING INFORMATION

Parts are not required to complete this repair.

CERTAIN 2015 TAURUS AND MKS AND 2016 EXPLORER VEHICLES — FUEL TANK ATTACHMENT BOLT TORQUE

OVERVIEW

In all of the affected vehicles, the fuel tank attachment bolts were not installed to the proper torque specification. Improper torque may result in insufficient clamp load that could lead to fatigue and fracture of the fuel tank straps, which could result in the fuel tank separating from the vehicle. A fuel tank separation may result in a fuel leak. Technicians are to loosen the fuel tank attachment bolts one-turn, then torque to specification using the following procedures.

SERVICE PROCEDURE

All Vehicles

1. With the vehicle in NEUTRAL, position it on a hoist. Please follow Workshop Manual (WSM) procedures in Section 100-02.

Taurus and MKS Vehicles

2. Remove the rear wheel and tire assemblies. Please follow WSM procedures in Section 204-04.

All Vehicles

3. Loosen each of the four fuel tank bolts one full turn. See Figure 1.

NOTE: Explorer AWD shown, other vehicles similar.

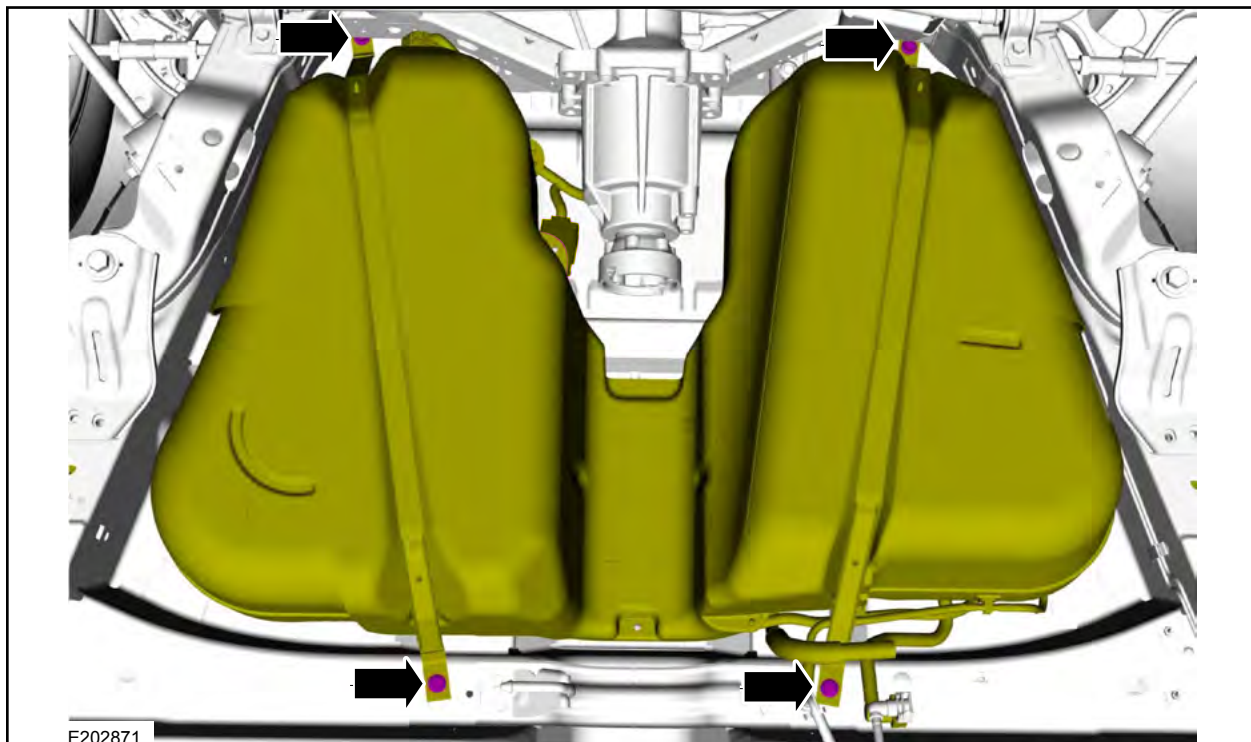


FIGURE 1



4. Tighten and then torque the four fuel tank bolts to 26 lb.ft (35 Nm).

- For Explorer vehicles, use an extension and swivel socket to torque all four bolts. Do not allow the extension and socket to exceed 15° of swivel angle while torquing the bolts to specification.
- For Taurus/MKS vehicles, use an extension and swivel socket to torque the two front bolts. Do not allow the extension and socket to exceed 15° of swivel angle while torquing the bolts to specification.
- For Taurus/MKS vehicles, the two rear bolts must be torqued using a suitable Adjustable Torque Wrench Adapter. Refer to Torque Wrench Adapter Formulas within the WSM to calculate proper torque as required. See Figure 2.



FIGURE 2

Taurus and MKS Vehicles

5. Install the rear wheel and tire assemblies. Please follow WSM procedures in Section 204-04.

